



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BENNETT ANNOUNCES DEPARTURE OF TOP AIDE

Names legislative director as new chief of staff, makes other senior staff changes

WASHINGTON, D.C. – After 22 years of federal service, James C. Barker, chief of staff to Utah Senator Bob Bennett, will be leaving Capitol Hill to join the Washington, D.C. law firm of Lee & Smith, P.C., and will be succeeded in his duties by Chip Yost, currently Bennett's legislative director.

"It has been a privilege to have Jim Barker at my side for the past eight years," Bennett said. "He has served the citizens of Utah with great distinction. I have valued his outstanding professional contributions as well as his personal friendship, and am confident his next step will also be met with great success."

"As we say farewell to Jim, I'm delighted to appoint Chip Yost to take over as my chief of staff. Chip brings tremendous talent and experience to this post, and his skills will continue to be invaluable as we move forward in our work for the people of Utah," Bennett added.

Taking over as legislative director in the Bennett office is Corine Larson Bradshaw who has served as senior policy advisor to Bennett and most recently as staff director of the Joint Economic Committee, of which Bennett is vice-chair. Prior to her work for Bennett, Bradshaw worked on the Senate Labor Committee and in the House of Representatives for Rep. James Hansen.

"Corine's legislative expertise has been a great asset to me since I came to the Senate. I'm delighted to ask her to oversee our legislative team," Bennett said.

Barker, who has served as Bennett's chief of staff since 1995 also served as his general counsel and legislative director following 14 years in the House of Representatives, including time as counsel to the Subcommittees on Energy and Environment; and Water, Power and Off-shore Energy Resources of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

Prior to his post as legislative director for Bennett, Yost joined the staff in 1993 as a legislative assistant. He came to the Bennett office from the Department of Treasury where he worked as special assistant to the assistant secretary of economic policy. Yost served in the private sector at Hoffmann-La Roche Pharmaceuticals and in the House of Representatives for Reps. Howard Nielsen and James Hansen.

Barker's departure is expected later this month.

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